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SUBJECT: GA ADOPTS 6TH COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS AND CREDENTIAL
COMMITTEE REPORT

¶1. Summary: On December 17, the General Assembly took action on 16 resolutions recommended by the Sixth Committee on topics ranging from universal jurisdiction to rule of law to criminal accountability of U.N. officials and experts on mission. All of the resolutions were adopted without a vote. Following the action on the Sixth Committee resolutions, the cosponsors of resolution A/64/L.27 Institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force spoke on its behalf with action scheduled for a later date. The General Assembly then turned to the Report of the Credentials Committee which was orally edited by the Chair of the Committee and later adopted by consensus without a vote. End Summary.

¶2. Belgium, Rapporteur of the Sixth Committee, reported to the General Assembly on the work of the Sixth Committee, which was divided into three priorities: promotion of justice and international law; drug control, crime prevention, and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations; and organizational, administrative, and other matters.

¶3. The General Assembly proceeded to take action on the following resolutions, all of which were adopted without a vote.

- Criminal Accountability of U.N. officials and experts on mission (A/64/446);
- Report of the U.N. Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its 42nd session (A/64/447);
- U.N. Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination, and Wider Appreciation of International Law (A/64/448);
- Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its 61st session (A/64/449);
- Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (A/64/450);
- The rule of law at the national and international levels (A/64/451);
- The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction (A/64/452);
- Measures to eliminate international terrorism (A/64/453);
- Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (A/64/461);
- Programme planning (A/64/462);
- Administration of justice at the United Nations (A/64/454);
- Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (A/64/455);
- Observer Status for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in the General Assembly (A/64/456);
- Observer Status for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the General Assembly (A/64/457);
- Observer Status for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa in the General Assembly (A/64/459);
- Observer Status for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean in the General Assembly (A/64/567);

¶4. Iran took the floor during consideration of Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (A/64/450) in order to explain its position. Iran highlighted paragraph 2 of the resolution which "takes note" of the document "Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations," on which it commented that sanctions can only be introduced after the Security Council has determined a threat to the peace. It noted the Security Council "shall act in strict conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter," and that it "should be held accountable for the consequences of unlawful sanctions applied for illegitimate purposes or introduced under political pressure or influence of certain permanent members." It was "concerned(over the abuse of the provisions of the Charter, particularly those relating to the mandate and power of the Security Council, by certain Member States for the advancement of narrow political interests."

¶5. The General Assembly then debated resolution A/64/L.27 Institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force with Austria, Pakistan, Burkina Faso, and Croatia, as cosponsors, advocating on its behalf. The General Assembly then deferred action on the draft resolution until a later date.

¶6. Subsequently, the General Assembly moved to the Report of the Credentials Committee (A/64/571). The Philippines, Chair of the Credentials Committee, made an oral revision to the first sentence of paragraph 11 of the Report adding "until such a time that the Credentials Committee reviews the matter and makes a final recommendation to the General Assembly."

The General Assembly then adopted the resolution by consensus "as orally revised." Iran explained its position after action, expressing reservations on any part of the report which might be construed as recognition of the Israeli regime. Madagascar also took the floor to thank the Member States for their cooperation.
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